Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above

amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 1-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 23, and 40 are amended.

Support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure,

including the original claims, and therefore no new matter is added.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's indication that claims 1-40 are

allowed. Although claims 1, 23 and 40 are amended to overcome objections made in the

Office Action, it is submitted that the claims remain allowed. Claims 1, 23 and 40 are

amended in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 which after final Rejection permits entering of

amendments complying with requirements of form set forth in a previous Office Action. No

new issues requiring former search and/or consideration are raised.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed

to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in

condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this

application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the

undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

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Customer Number

22850

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(OSMMN 03/06)

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